

Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
U.S. Appl. No.: 09/465,514

Attorney Docket # A7254

### REMARKS

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's consideration of the references cited with the Information Disclosure Statement filed December 16, 1999.

#### Status of the Application

Claims 1-37 are all the claims pending in the Application, and claims 1-37 have been rejected.

#### Claim Objections

The Examiner has objected to claims 3, 30, 34 and 36 due to minor informalities. The informalities noted by the Examiner have been corrected. Thus, withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested.

#### Indefiniteness Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 6, 10, 17 and 22 as allegedly being indefinite under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner alleges that "the term 'unique' is a relative term and is not defined by the claim, the specification does not provide a standard for ascertaining the requisite degree, and one of ordinary skill in the art would not be reasonably apprised of the scope of the invention" (Office Action, pg. 2).

However, Applicant respectfully submits that the term "unique" is not relative, but rather is used in the claims according to its well known ordinary and accustomed meaning.

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

#### 35 U.S.C. § 101 Rejection

The Examiner has rejected claims 17 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 101, alleging that "the claimed recitation of a use, without setting forth any steps involved in the process, results in an

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improper definition of a process, i.e., results in a claim which is not a proper process claim under 35 U.S.C. § 101" (Office Action, pg. 3).

However, Applicant respectfully submits that this rejection is improper for at least two reasons. First, Applicant believes the Examiner to be basing this rejection on MPEP § 2173.05(q), which is directed to "use" claims (*e.g.* "a process for using" or "the use of"). However, MPEP 2173.05(q) is inapplicable in this instance, as claims 17 and 22 respectively recite an "access control method" and a "computer-readable medium having computer-executable code stored thereon," not a "use."

Further, even if MPEP § 2173.05(q) were applicable to these claims, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 17 and 22 do recite discrete steps, as both claims 17 and 22 clearly recite, for example, "requesting access for a user to a remote resource."

Thus, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of this rejection.

#### Anticipation Rejections

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Saito* (US 6,076,077; hereinafter "*Saito*"), and claims 17-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by *Sonderegger* (US 5,893,118; hereinafter "*Sonderegger*"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

#### Claims 1-16

*Saito* discloses a system for managing copyrights, wherein various copyrighted content, such as M4, M5 and M6 in FIG. 2, are stored in databases 1, 2 and 3 in FIG. 1. When this content is distributed, it is encrypted using secret keys (*e.g.*, Ks21, Ks22, Ks23). A user can request these keys to be able to decrypt the content (col. 9, lines 18-24).

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Thus, *Saito* merely discloses a system where various rights can be assigned to specific transmitted files so that they cannot be decrypted by users that have not compensated the copyright holder.

The Examiner alleges that all of the features of independent claims 1, 6 and 10 are disclosed by *Saito*.

However, *Saito* fails to teach or suggest "a second storage area having stored therein an object identifier that identifies the object, wherein the object identifier is unique within and outside of the storage system," as recited in claims 1 and 6, or "storing an object identifier in the storage system, wherein the object identifier identifies the object, and the object identifier is unique within and outside of the storage system," as recited in claim 10.

*Saito* is simply silent with respect to the provision of any storage of an object identifier, or that such an "object identifier is unique within and outside of the storage system."

In fact, even the portion of *Saito* cited by the Examiner as allegedly disclosing these features (col. 4, lines 19-25) simply discloses a relationship between a "method" and an "object" and their interrelated usefulness. It does not disclose any object identifier.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 6 and 10 are patentable over the applied reference. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that rejected dependent claims 2-5, 7-9 and 11-16 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Further, Applicants respectfully submit that these dependent claims are separately patentable over the applied reference.

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For example, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2, 4, 7, 9, 11, 14 and 15, which recite that "the object identifier is a Universal Unique Identifier (UUID)," are all separately patentable. ~~There is simply no disclosure of UUIDs in Saito, and the portion cited by the Examiner as disclosing them (col. 4, line 63 - col. 5, line 6), is directed to an encryption operation, and does not disclose UUIDs.~~

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Claims 17-37

*Sonderegger* discloses a system whereby a JAVA client 40 identifies a desired JAVA software component (which is identified by, e.g., a UUID) and looks to see if it is already loaded to a local hash table 44 (col. 9, lines 5-10). If the desired component is not loaded, the JAVA client queries database 52 to determine if the desired component is stored therein by looking for its identifier. If the desired component is found it is loaded into JAVA client 40 for use thereby (col. 10, lines 1-7; 23-25).

The Examiner alleges that all of the features of independent claims 17, 22, 24, 27, 30, 34 and 36 are disclosed by *Sonderegger*.

In contrast, Applicant respectfully submits that each of these claims recite features that are not taught or suggested by *Sonderegger*, as discussed in the following paragraphs.

Regarding claims 17 and 22, Applicant respectfully submits that *Sonderegger* fails to teach or suggest *at least* "requesting access for a user to a remote resource, wherein the request includes a subject identifier for use in making an access control decision, and wherein the subject identifier is unique within and outside of the remote resource and identifies the user."

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As discussed above, *Sonderegger* is directed towards the retrieval of JAVA components by a JAVA client. *Sonderegger* never discloses any ability or functionality to "request access for a user to a remote resource," as the user's access is simply not considered in *Sonderegger*.

Further, there is no teaching or suggestion of any ability or functionality to make "an access control decision," as *Sonderegger* does not make access control decisions relative to its database 52, which is never disclosed as being inaccessible to JAVA client 40 should it need additional JAVA components.

Regarding claim 24, Applicant respectfully submits that *Sonderegger* fails to teach or suggest *at least* "establishing a secure communication path between a reference monitor protecting the object and a resource manager having information describing the user, in response to a request by the user to access the object" or "sending a request for user information from the protecting reference monitor to the resource manager, the request including a subject descriptor for the user, wherein the subject identifier is a Universal Unique Identifier (UUID)," or "receiving, in response to the request, the user information located based on the subject identifier."

As discussed above, *Sonderegger* is silent with respect to storing information about a user, or allowing a user to access any object. Rather, *Sonderegger* is directed towards the retrieval of JAVA components by a JAVA client.

Further, *Sonderegger* is silent regarding establishing any "secure communication path" between any portions therein, or to providing any "reference monitor" to protect its database contents. As discussed above, *Sonderegger* discloses no ability to prevent access to its database 52, and no need to provide a secure communication path therein.

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Regarding claims 27 and 30, Applicant respectfully submits that *Sonderegger* fails to teach or suggest *at least* "an access control unit for determining if a requestor is authorized to access a protected object stored in the collection," or that "the resource manager receives a user's request for access to the protected object, the request including a globally unique identifier for the user requesting the access."

As discussed above, *Sonderegger* is silent with respect to storing or using any information about a "user," or determining if a "requestor" is "authorized" to access its databases. Rather, *Sonderegger* is directed towards the retrieval of JAVA components by a JAVA client.

Further, *Sonderegger* is silent regarding any objects within its database 52 being "protected." As discussed above, *Sonderegger* discloses no ability to prevent access to its database 52, or to protect any of the content thereof.

Regarding claims 34 and 36, Applicant respectfully submits that *Sonderegger* fails to teach or suggest *at least* "sending a globally unique identifier for a user to a name resolving device, and receiving therefrom information about the user" and "sending to a storage management system containing an object a request for access to the object, the request including the information about the user."

As discussed above, *Sonderegger* is silent with respect to storing or using any information about a "user." Rather, *Sonderegger* is directed towards the retrieval of JAVA components by a JAVA client.

Thus, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 17, 22, 24, 27, 30, 34 and 36 are patentable over the applied reference. Additionally, Applicants respectfully submit that

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rejected dependent claims 18-23, 25, 26, 28, 29, 31-33, 35 and 37 are allowable, *at least* by virtue of their dependency.

Thus, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw this rejection.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-37 are allowable.

Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the application now is in condition for allowance with all of the claims 1-37.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Please charge any fees which may be required to maintain the pendency of this application, except for the Issue Fee, to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880.

I hereby certify that the above identified correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to Examiner Leynna A. Ha at the Patent and Trademark Office on February 10, 2004 at 703.872.9306.

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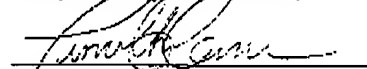
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Respectfully submitted,

  
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